



Presentation to the OCS Policy Committee

By

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Executive Director**

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The Oceans Act of 2000

***Purpose:* Establishes a Commission on Ocean Policy which will submit to Congress and the President a report on its recommendations for a coordinated and comprehensive National Ocean Policy**

Chronology of Key Events:

- **Act signed into law by the President on 08/07/00**
- **Act became effective on 01/20/01**
- **The President appointed the 16 members of the Commission on 06/15/01**

Commission Members

Admiral James D. Watkins, USN (Ret.) (Maryland)
Chairman, U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy

Dr. Robert Ballard (Connecticut)

Dr. Frank Muller-Karger (Florida)

Mr. Ted A. Beattie (Illinois)

Mr. Edward B. Rasmuson (Alaska)

Mrs. Lillian Borrone (New Jersey)

Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg (New Hampshire)

Dr. James M. Coleman (Louisiana)

Mr. William D. Ruckelshaus (Washington)

Ms. Ann D'Amato (California)

Dr. Paul A. Sandifer (South Carolina)

Mr. Lawrence Dickerson (Texas)

Vice Admiral Paul G. Gaffney II, USN (Washington, DC)

Professor Marc J. Hershman (Washington)

Mr. Paul L. Kelly (Texas)

Dr. Thomas R. Kitsos, Exec. Dir.

Mr. Christopher Koch (Virginia)

Biographies of the members can be found at www.oceancommission.gov

The Commission's report is mandated to include:

- 1. an assessment of facilities (people, vessels, computers, satellites)**
- 2. a review of federal activities**
- 3. a review of the cumulative effect of federal laws**
- 4. a review of the supply and demand for ocean and coastal resources**
- a review of the relationships between federal, state, and local governments, and the private sector**
- 6. a review of the opportunities for the investment in new products and technologies**
- recommendations for modifications to federal laws and/or the structure of federal agencies**
- 8. a review of the effectiveness of existing federal interagency policy coordination**

The Commission is to give equal consideration to environmental, technical feasibility, economic, and scientific factors, and its recommendations may not be specific to the lands or waters within a single state.

U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy

**Stewardship
Working Group**

**Governance
Working Group**

**Res., Educ. &
Mar. Oper.
Working Group**

**Investment
Working Group**

Chairman
*Adm. James D.
Watkins*

Science Advisory Panel

**Executive
Director**

Admin. Staff

**Assoc. Dir. for
Stewardship**

**Assoc. Dir. for
Governance**

**Assoc. Dir. for
Res., Educ. &
Mar. Oper.**

**Assoc. Dir. for
Investment**

**Pol. Assoc.
Staff**

**Pol. Assoc.
Staff**

**Pol. Assoc.
Staff**

**Pol. Assoc.
Staff**

Research, Education and Marine Operations Working Group

will acquire data on and assess the existing knowledge of ocean and coastal research, education, and marine operations.

Working Group Members

Dr. James M. Coleman, Chairman

Dr. Robert D. Ballard

Mr. Ted A. Beattie

Mr. Edward B. Rasmuson

Admiral James D. Watkins, USN (Ret.)

Stewardship Working Group

will assess the current status of the United State's stewardship of living and non-living marine resources in coastal and EEZ waters and in the world oceans and will focus on marine pollution issues.

Working Group Members

Dr. Paul A. Sandifer, Chairman

Ms. Ann D'Amato

Vice Admiral Paul G. Gaffney II, USN

Mr. Paul L. Kelly

Dr. Frank Muller-Karger

Admiral James D. Watkins, USN (Ret.)

Governance Working Group

will examine the current roles of Federal, State and local governments as they relate to the oceans, and make recommendations or provide options to the full Commission for reform or improvement.

Working Group Members

Mr. William D. Ruckelshaus, Chairman

Mrs. Lillian Borrone

Mr. Lawrence R. Dickerson

Professor Marc J. Hershman

Mr. Christopher Koch

Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg

Admiral James D. Watkins, USN (Ret.)

Investment and Implementation Working Group

will answer the question, “Given the issue-specific recommendations of the other working groups, what Federal structures, processes or investments are necessary to integrate, implement and sustain the Commission’s recommendations?”

Working Group Members

Admiral James D. Watkins, USN (Ret.), Chairman

Dr. James M. Coleman

Vice Admiral Paul G. Gaffney II, USN

Mr. Paul L. Kelly

Mr. Christopher Koch

Mr. Edward Rasmuson

Mr. William D. Ruckelshaus

Dr. Paul A. Sandifer

Science Advisory Panel

The Oceans Act of 2000 specifically tasks the Commission with establishing a Science Advisory Panel to assist the Commission in preparing its report and to ensure "...that the scientific information considered by the Commission is based on the best scientific information available."

Panel consists of 26 experts representing the breadth of issues before the Commission and the structure and function of the Working Groups.

Advisors assigned to provide assistance to the individual Working Groups as well as to the full Commission.

Commission National and Regional Public Meetings

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Locale</u>	<u>Meeting Focus</u>
Sept. 17-18, 2001	Wash., DC	1 st meeting; Comm. logistics
Nov. 13-14, 2001	Wash., DC	fed. Agencies & nat'l orgs issues
Jan. 15-16, 2002	Charleston, SC	LMR & coastal develop. issues
Feb. 22, 2002	St. Petersburg, FL	O&G/Educ/Fish/Coastal Mng't
Mar. 7-8, 2002	New Orleans, LA	Wetlands/O&G/Transp/LMR
Apr. 18-19, 2002	Los Angeles, CA	Biotech/Env Qual/MPAs/Habitat
May 13-14, 2002	Honolulu, HI	Coral Reefs/Climate/Tourism/LU Mng't
June 13-14, 2002	Seattle, WA	Aquaculture/LMR/Sci & Educ/Govern.
July 23-24, 2002	Boston, MA	TBD
Aug. 22-23, 2002	Anchorage, AK	TBD
Sept. 24-25, 2002	Chicago, IL	TBD
Oct. 30-Nov. 1, 2002	Wash., DC area	Issues Wrap-up Meeting



**Commissioners conduct site visit to an offshore oil rig;
Crazy Horse prospect, March 6, 2002**

Existing Time Table

Sept. 01-Nov. 02	3-4 National and 9 Regional Public Meetings
Aug. 02-Jan. 03	Draft the Report for Congress & the President
Feb. 03	Send Report to Governors for Review; FR Notice
Early Mar. 03	Governors' Comments Due & Incorporated in Report
Mid-Mar. 03	Final Report Completed & Approved by Commission
Mar. 21, 03	Submit the Report to Congress & the President
April 21, 03	Commission Sunsets
July 19, 03	President Submits Plan for a Coordinated and Comprehensive National Ocean Policy to Congress

Recurring Issues the Commission has Heard To Date

Living Marine Resources: 1) Overfishing; 2) Marine Protected Areas;
3) Habitat Destruction; 4) Coral Reef Impacts; 5) Aquaculture

Pollution/Water Quality: 1) Non-point Source Pollution; 2) Hypoxia;
3) Harmful Algal Blooms & Nutrient Run-off; 4) Oil Spills

Coastal Zone Management: 1) Development Impacts; 2) Ports;
3) Tourism; 4) Coastal Hazards; 5) Governance Issues

Non-living Marine Resources: 1) Oil and Gas Development;
2) Potential for Other Ocean Energy Sources; 3) Cultural Resources

Exploration/Technology/Research/Education: 1) Oceans poorly known;
2) Ocean Observing and Prediction System; 3) Public Ocean Literacy
4) K-12 Ocean Science Education; 5) Climate Change

Marine Operations: 1) Integration Across Fed. Agencies; 2) Transportation;
3) Ports and Dredging

Investment/Fed. Gov't Organization: 1) More Money for Oceans;
2) Restructure Fed. Ocean Agencies